

What is claimed is;

1. An electronic still camera, comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

5 a reproduction control circuit that reads out and reproduces image data recorded in a recording medium;

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on image data output from said reproduction control circuit to emphasize the image data;

10 a display device that displays an image corresponding to the image data;

a first switch that is engaged to perform frame feed and frame rewind for the image data to be reproduced by said reproduction control circuit;

15 a second switch that is engaged to turn on/off said signal processing circuit; and

a display control circuit that selects an image to be displayed on said display device in response to an operation effected through said first switch and said  
20 second switch.

2. An electronic still camera according to claim 1, wherein:

said first switch is operated to perform frame feed  
25 and frame rewind of the image data to be reproduced by

said reproduction control circuit one frame at a time.

3. An electronic still camera comprising:

- a mode selector switch that selects either a  
5 recording mode for recording image data in a recording  
medium or a reproduction mode for reading out and  
reproducing image data recorded at the recording medium;
- a signal processing circuit that emphasizes the image  
data by implementing a specific type of processing on the  
10 image data;
- a display device that displays an image based upon  
the image data;
- a storage circuit that stores in memory an on/off  
state of said signal processing circuit in said  
15 reproduction mode; and
- a switching control circuit that stores in said  
storage circuit the on/off state of said signal processing  
circuit during said reproduction mode preceding a switch  
to the recording mode effected through said mode selector  
20 switch, turns off the signal processing circuit during the  
recording mode resulting from the switch, and turns on/off  
said signal processing circuit in correspondence to the  
on/off state of said signal processing circuit stored in  
said storage circuit during said reproduction mode  
25 following a switch to said reproduction mode effected

through said mode selector switch.

4. An electronic still camera comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject  
5 image through a taking lens;  
a signal processing circuit that performs a specific  
type of processing on the image-capture signal output from  
said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-  
capture signal; and  
10 a control circuit that sets specific photographing  
conditions when said signal processing circuit is turned  
on.

5. An electronic still camera according to claim 4,  
15 further comprising:

a focus mode selector switch that selects an  
autofocus mode for performing an automatic focusing  
operation to focus the subject image on said image-  
capturing device or a manual focus mode for performing a  
20 manual focusing operation, wherein:

said control circuit sets said manual focus mode if  
said autofocus mode has been set through said focus mode  
selector switch when said signal processing circuit is  
turned on.

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6. An electronic still camera comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

an exposure mode selector switch that selects and  
5 sets an exposure mode among a shutter speed priority exposure mode, in which an aperture value is determined in correspondence to the brightness of the subject image by giving priority to shutter speed, an aperture priority exposure mode, in which the shutter speed is determined in  
10 correspondence to the brightness of the subject image by giving priority to the aperture value and a program exposure mode, in which both the shutter speed and the aperture value are set at specific values corresponding to the brightness of the subject image;

15 an aperture device that adjusts an exposure quantity at said image-capturing device in conformance to the aperture value;

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific processing on the image-capture signal output from said  
20 image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal; and

a control circuit that implements control on said aperture device prior to a shutter release to be opened or to be set at the specific aperture value in correspondence  
25 to the on/off state of said signal processing circuit and

the exposure mode selected through said exposure mode selector switch.

7. An electronic still camera according to claim 6,

5 wherein:

said control circuit controls said aperture device to be set at the aperture value prior to the shutter release if, at least, said signal processing circuit has been turned on and the aperture priority exposure mode has been  
10 selected through said exposure mode selector switch.

8. An electronic still camera, comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

15 a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal; and

a control circuit that implements control on said  
20 signal processing circuit to emphasize image-capture signals corresponding to a plurality of split areas set in advance within a photographic field.

9. An electronic still camera according to claim 8,

25 further comprising:

a focal point detection circuit that detects a focal adjustment state achieved by said taking lens in each of the plurality of split areas.

- 5 10. An electronic still camera according to claim 8, further comprising:

a selector switch engaged to select an arbitrary area among the plurality of split areas.

- 10 11. An electronic still camera comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

- a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal;
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- a magnification adjustment circuit that adjusts the magnification of an image corresponding to the image-capture signal independently of said signal processing circuit; and
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a display device that displays the image corresponding to the image-capture signal.

12. An electronic still camera comprising:

- 25 an image-capturing device that captures a subject

image through a taking lens;

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-

5 capture signal;

a magnification adjustment circuit that adjusts the magnification of an image corresponding to an image-capture signal output from said signal processing circuit: and

10 a display device that displays an image corresponding to an image-capture signal output from said magnification adjustment circuit.

13. An electronic still camera, comprising:

15 an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

a magnification adjustment circuit that adjusts the magnification of an image corresponding to an image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device;

20 a signal processing circuit that subsamples the image-capture signal output from said magnification adjustment circuit to emphasize the subsampled image-capture signal by implementing a specific type of processing on the subsampled image-capture signal: and

25 a display device that displays an image corresponding

to image-capture signal output from said signal processing circuit.

14. An electronic still camera according to claim 13,

5 wherein:

the image-capture signal output from said magnification adjustment circuit are subsampled at a rate of  $1/(\text{new magnification set by said magnification adjustment circuit})$ .

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15. An electronic still camera comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

a recording control circuit that records in a  
15 recording medium image data corresponding to an image-capturing signal output from said image-capturing device;  
and

a signal processing circuit that emphasizes the image-capturing signal by performing a specific type of  
20 processing on the image-capturing signal .

16. An electronic still camera, comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

25 a subsampling circuit that subsamples an image-



capture signal output from said image-capturing device and reads out subsampled image-capture signals; and

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the subsampled image-capture signal obtained through a subsampling readout executed by said  
5 subsampling circuit to emphasize the image-capture signal.

17. An electronic still camera according to claim 16, further comprising:

10 a display device that displays a subject image by using the subsampled image-capture signal obtained through a subsampling readout executed by said subsampling circuit.

18. An electronic still camera according to claim 16, further comprising:

a contrast detection circuit that detects contrast in the subject image by using the subsampled image-capture signal obtained through a subsampling readout executed by said subsampling circuit: and

20 a focal point detection circuit that detects a focal adjustment state of said taking lens by using the results of a detection performed by said contrast detection circuit.

25 19. An electronic still camera comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from  
5 said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal; and

a control circuit that switches off said signal processing circuit in correspondence to photographing conditions.

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20. An electronic still camera according to claim 19, further comprising:

a focus mode selector switch engaged to select an autofocus mode for performing an automatic focusing  
15 operation to focus the subject image on said image-capturing device or a manual focus mode for enabling a manual focusing operation, wherein:

said control circuit turns off said signal processing circuit when said autofocus mode is selected through said  
20 focus mode selector switch and turns on said signal processing circuit when said manual focus mode is selected.

21. An electronic still camera according to claim 19, further comprising:

25 a macro photographing mode selector switch engaged to

select a macro photographing mode for performing a macro photographing operation or a normal photographing mode for performing a photographing operation within a normal distance range, wherein:

5       said control circuit turns on said signal processing circuit when said macro photographing mode is selected through said macro photographing mode selector switch.

22. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
10       further comprising:

an exposure mode selector switch having at least either an aperture priority exposure mode setting for implementing an exposure adjustment in correspondence to the brightness of the subject image by giving priority to  
15       an aperture value or a manual exposure mode setting for allowing the photographer to determine both the aperture value and the shutter speed as an exposure mode in conformance to which the exposure quantity for said image-capturing device is determined and engaged to select the  
20       one exposure mode, wherein:

      said control circuit turns on said signal processing circuit when at least either the aperture priority exposure mode or the manual exposure mode is selected through said exposure mode selector switch.

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23. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
further comprising:

a zoom switch through which focal length is adjusted  
by driving said taking lens, wherein:

5       said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
circuit when said zoom switch is engaged in operation.

24. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
further comprising:

10       a brightness detection circuit that detects the  
brightness of the subject image, wherein:

15       said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
circuit when a detection value obtained by said brightness  
detection circuit is equal to or less than a specific  
value.

25. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
further comprising:

20       a frame selector switch that selects a single frame  
photographing mode for photographing the subject image one  
frame at a time or a continuous frame photographing mode  
for photographing the subject image continuously, wherein:

25       said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
circuit when the continuous frame photographing mode is  
selected through said frame selector switch.

26. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
further comprising:

a distant view photographing mode selector switch  
5 that selects a distant view photographing mode for  
photographing a distant view or a normal photographing  
mode for performing a photographing operation within a  
normal distance range, wherein:

said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
10 circuit when the distant view photographing mode is  
selected through said distant view photographing mode  
selector switch.

27. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
15 further comprising:

an autofocus mode selector switch that selects a  
continuous autofocus mode for continuously performing a  
focusing operation to automatically focus the subject  
image on said image-capturing device or a single autofocus  
20 mode for performing the focusing operation only once,  
wherein:

said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
circuit when said continuous autofocus mode is selected  
through said autofocus mode selector switch.

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28. An electronic still camera according to claim 27,  
wherein:

said control circuit may switch the on/off state of  
said signal processing circuit depending upon whether or  
5 not the focusing operation ends when the single autofocus  
mode is selected through said autofocus mode selector  
switch.

29. An electronic still camera according to claim 19,  
10 further comprising:

a display device that displays an image-capture  
signal output from said signal processing circuit: and

a display control circuit that turns on/off display  
at said display device, wherein:

15 said control circuit turns off said signal processing  
circuit when the display is turned off by said display  
control circuit.

30. An electronic still camera comprising:

20 an image-capturing device that captures a subject  
image through a taking lens;

a signal processing circuit that performs a specific  
type of processing on the image-capture signal output from  
said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-  
25 capture signal;

a release switch operated to start a photographing operation; and

a control circuit that switches said signal processing circuit on/off in response to an operation of said release switch.

31. An electronic still camera according to claim 30, wherein:

said control circuit switches the on/off state of said signal processing circuit each time said release switch is double-clicked.

32. An electronic still camera according to claim 30, wherein:

said control circuit turns on said signal processing circuit in response to a halfway-press operation of said release switch and turns off said signal processing circuit when a specific length of time has elapsed following the halfway-press operation.

33. An electronic still camera according to claim 20, wherein:

said control circuit turns on said signal processing circuit when said manual focus mode is selected through said focus mode selector switch, turns off said signal

processing circuit when a specific length of time has elapsed following the switch to said manual focus mode and then turns on said signal processing circuit again when a manual focusing operation is performed subsequently.

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34. An electronic still camera, comprising:

an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;

10 a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal;

a recording control circuit that records image data in a recording medium;

15 a mode selector switch that selects a recording mode for recording the image data in the recording medium or a reproduction mode for reproducing the image data recorded in the recording medium: and

20 a control circuit that turns off said signal processing circuit when said reproduction mode is selected through said mode selector switch.

35. An electronic still camera, comprising:

25 an image-capturing device that captures a subject image through a taking lens;



a signal processing circuit that performs a specific type of processing on the image-capture signal output from said image-capturing device and emphasizes the image-capture signal;

5 a display device that displays an image corresponding to the image-capture signal or an image corresponding to the emphasized image-capture signal: and

a control circuit that turns off said signal processing circuit when displaying an image captured by  
10 said image-capturing device on said display device following, at least, a shutter release.